Never Sheathe the Sword Until Victory Is Won

Nippon Times

The Die Is Cast, Let's Fight to the Last!

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REICH TROOPS DEAL ENEMY HEAVY BLOW IN CASSINO FIGHTING

Violent Battle for Italian City Continues at White Heat Intensity

Special

LISBON, March 21.—The violent battle for Cassino was continuing today in white heat intensity. German reports disclosed that the enemy forces attacked again supported by strong tank formations but were cut to ribbons by the withering fire of the German defenders. The reports said that the losses of the enemy exceeded those of the defenders by many times. German reports also said that an enemy fighting group had been encircled northwest of the town.

Meanwhile, anti-Axis reports from Naples quoted the anti-Axis headquarters there as announcing that German para-troops, who were described as "perhaps the toughest men in the German army," had fought their way back into the ruins of the Continental Hotel and were continuing to fight fiercely for the vital heights behind the stronghold. These reports admitted that the German forces had been reinforced and that the "grim struggle continues."

These reports quoted an anti-Axis headquarters officer as saying that the German forces succeeded in bringing up reinforcements within the ruins of the town and that "fierce fighting continues for the fifth day for the possession of Cassino and vicinity without decision." These reports also said that the Germans were holding firmly on to their positions on the slopes of Monte Cassino, overlooking the town, including the strategic point they regained in counter attack on Sunday. The Germans were also laying heavy artillery fire on the anti-Axis troops from these points.

Heavy Fighting On

Domei

LISBON, March 20.—With the recapture of the railway station at Cassino, the anti-Axis forces, using New Zealand troops as their spearhead, are now engaged in a severe battle with the German defenders in the western section of the city. It appears that the vicinity of the Continental Hotel, which has been reduced to ruins, is the scene of the heaviest fighting

A fierce battle is also progressing in the environs of Monastery Hill in the outskirts of the city. The Germans have been throwing in powerful reserves during the past several days and their defense of the strategic points are firm.

According to a Reuter dispatch, two of the these hills surrounding Monastery Hill are now in the hands of the anti-Axis forces but that the other hill, Elevation No. 165, was recaptured by the Germans on March 19. The Cassino railway station, it was also reported, is now undergoing severe bombardment from German artillery positions on the hill.

Slow, Costly Operations

Special

BERLIN, March 20.—Military experts said here today that the results of the three days of fiercest assaults ever launched by the American Fifth Army in the Cassino area revealed that General Mark Clark's offensive would remain in the future, as now, a slow and terribly costly enterprise. They estimated that the hail of bombs in the past few days, amounting perhaps to about five to six thousand tons and the attrition of materials caused by that had cost the enemy about £3,000,000.

Experts pointed out that this vast sum had been fired away to make a few steps forward and then back again into the ruins of a small town like Cassino. They said that the German defenders could rely on two things; field fortifications around Cassino and the perseverance of the German soldiers, who, in this battle, surpassed all imagination in the excellence of their fighting qualities. Eye-witnesses related that the anti-Axis soldiers were much more affected by the heavy artillery bombardment than were the German soldiers on whom this hail of explosives was poured.

Roosevelt Again Ill

Special

LISBON, March 21.—President Roosevelt is suffering from a cold in the head and upon advice from his physicians he has cancelled all his appointments and is remaining in the presidential quarters for the second consecutive day.

Reich Defenses Down 24 Anglo-U.S. Planes Over Europe in A Day

Special

BERLIN, March 21.—Twenty-four Anglo-American planes were shot down by the German air defense in the course of a daylight attack on southern Germany on Monday, it was announced by authoritative German quarters today at noon. The enemy planes were knocked out of the sky over Mannheim, Ludwigshafen and the suburbs of Frankfort-on-the-Main, which were the targets of the raid, as well as over occupied territory and on the Italian front. Bad weather rendered it difficult for the German air defense to ward off these raids, it was stressed.

WAR ON EAST FRONT GROWS IN VIOLENCE

Soviet Groups at Kovel Liquidated in Hard House to House Fighting

Special

BERLIN, March 21.—The hardest fighting in the southern section of the Eastern front has shifted to the western sector of this arena, it was learned from authoritative quarters at noon today. They said that between Kremenez and Kovel, where the Soviet forces were continuing their break through efforts in a western direction, the fighting was growing in violence. They stated that the Soviet groups which entered Kovel were liquidated in hard house to house fighting and that in the course of this action one German infantry division either destroyed or captured 18 Soviet tanks.

In the region between the middle course of the Ukraine Bug and the Dniester, where the Soviet forces had temporarily broken into the German lines, fighting of a violent scale was going on only near Smerican, these quarters disclosed, adding that here the Luftwaffe collaborated with the ground troops with its strong fighter and bomber formations, inflicting heavy losses on the Soviet forces. Northwest of Peromaisk, the German troops smashed Soviet bridgeheads on the lower Ukrainian Bug in successful counter-attacks, these quarters said.

They said that between Proskurov and Tarnopol, the German offensive enterprises for improving the front line were successfully continued.

On the southern bank of the Pripet marshes the Soviet forces repeatedly attacked with strong forces between the Stoye and Goryn rivers but these attacks were bloodily repulsed by the Germans.

Only minor local activity went on between the Pripet marshes and the Finnish Bight, they said.

Big Battle Result

Domei

BERLIN, March 21.—The German military authorities on March 21 announced as follows:

The German forces during the past seven days wiped out, in the area of Tarnopol and Proskurov, the greater part of 16 Soviet infantry divisions, two tank units, and two artillery divisions. They also destroyed 195 tanks, 62 guns, 129 heavy bomb throwers, and other arms in great numbers.

Soviet Drive Failure

Special

BERLIN, March 20.—Reports from the Narva front said that the Soviet forces failed to cut off the German

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MOPPING-UP STAGE NEARS IN CAMPAIGN ON BURMA'S BORDER

Annihilative and Encirclement Battle Against 17th Division Reaches Final Phase

By K. HASHIMOTO and C. HOSHIYASU
Of the Military Press Corps

UNDISCLOSED BASE ON THE BURMA FRONT, March 21.—The Imperial Japanese Forces' annihilative and encirclement battle against the main force of the 17th Division of the British-Indian army of more than 10,000 strong in the central Burma-India border area is now reaching the final phase, the situation there now turning into a mopping-up campaign from the encirclement operation and step by step reaching the last stage.

There is no way open for enemy troops either to flee into the jungle areas or to offer futile resistance depending upon the supply by air.

Contrary to fighting on level land the present operation has developed as a complete mountain battle. The Chin Hills consist of steep and precipitous rocks and range about 5,000 to 8,000 feet in height.

Overcoming innumerable hardships and difficulties and bearing the repeated bombing and bombardment carried out by the enemy prior to the commencement of the present operation, the crack units of the Imperial Japanese Forces successfully built their positions in these mountainous regions. On the other hand, the enemy in order to defend Tonzan and Tidim constructed defensive lines in the jungles and on various heights in the Chin Hills area, preparing to advance on the hastily built highways.

Taking advantage of the moonlight on the dusk of March 8, the Iriye and Sueki Units together with various other comrade units started the advance along the Chin Hills, breaking through the deep jungles.

Vital Foe Point Reached

Secretly crossing the main stream of the Manipur River, the Iriye Unit on March 14 reached Singelu, the vital point of the enemy, northwest of Tonzan, after making a forced march of 40 kilometers. Within 10 days after the operation started, the Iriye Unit succeeded in cutting off the enemy line in the Maubum on March 15.

In parallel with the movement of the Iriye Unit, the Sueki Unit, advancing northward on the right side of the Iriye Unit, entered the 3,299 Height, commanding the principal highway connecting Tonzan and X X. Cutting off the enemy's important highway, the Sueki Unit greatly contributed to the formation of the encirclement nests against Tonzan.

Commencing the advance on March 8, the Morishige, Saito and Ogawa Units also continued their march along the Kalewa valley on the branch stream of the Chindwin River. On March 11, the Ogawa, Okamoto and Saito Units occupied the enemy position at 8,143 and 7,953 Heights, 10 kilometers west of Tonzan.

Maintaining a parallel movement with these units, the Morishige and Taguchi Units on March 14 took Toitoir, X kilometers north of Tonzan, smashing the enemy at every point, while they also occupied a height to the south of Tonzan.

Pressed from the three directions, the enemy troops began their backward surge on March 13 and 14, while the Iriye and Sueki Units entirely cut off the routed enemy in the northwestern part of Tonzan.

After dauntless and death-defying

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Imperial Messengers to Be Sent To Inspect Aircraft Factories

Ever Solicitous of Progress of Production of Aerial Weapons, His Majesty Orders Aides-de-Camp To Visit Plane Manufacturing Plants

His Majesty the Emperor has graciously ordered the dispatch of Imperial Aides-de-Camp to several scores of aircraft manufacturing factories starting April 1, it was learned on Wednesday.

In this connection, Prime Minister General Hideki Tojo, in his concurrent capacity as Minister of Munitions, issued the following statement:

"Graciously solicitous of the production of aerial weapons, His Majesty the Emperor was pleased to order the dispatch of His Aides-de-Camp to airplane manufacturing plants. Although the number of factories which will be inspected by the Imperial Messengers this time is limited, I believe that the gracious honor extended by His Imperial Majesty will be shared by all factories connected with the production of air weapons.

"It is incumbent upon all those engaged in aircraft production to exert their utmost efforts for the successful discharge of their duties in response to the gracious Imperial Wishes."

Her Majesty the Empress, on Wednesday, was pleased to honor with Her presence the 57th commencement exercises at the Peeresses' School at Aoyama, Kitamachi, Akasaka-ku.

Her Imperial Majesty left the Imperial Palace at 9:15 a.m. in an informal motorcar procession. Viscountess Takeko Hoshina, Chief Lady-in-Waiting, was permitted to share the tonneau of the Imperial limousine, which was followed by other automobiles carrying Imperial Household Vice-Minister Baron Matsusuke Shirane and others.

With Tesshin Shibata, principal of the institution leading the way, Her Imperial Majesty was pleased to grace the graduation ceremonies with Her Presence. Later, Her Imperial Majesty was pleased to inspect the exhibits made by the pupils. After luncheon, Her Imperial Majesty graciously witnessed the pupils engaging in calisthenics in which Their Imperial Highnesses Princesses Taka and Yori, Imperial Daughters, participated.

Leaving the School at 2:50 p.m., Her Imperial Majesty returned to the Imperial Palace.

The commencement exercises of the Naval Academy was held at Etajima on Wednesday in the presence of His Imperial Highness Prince Nobuhito Takamatsu, who was specially dispatched for the occasion by His Majesty the Emperor. Admiral Naokuni Nomura, Commander-in-Chief of the Kure Naval Station, on behalf of the Navy Minister, and other distinguished naval officers were among those who were invited. Imperial gifts were awarded to 12 honors graduates.

The commencement exercises of the Naval Engineering School at Maizuru were held from 10:05 a.m. on Wednesday in the presence of His Imperial Highness Prince Asaakira Kuni who was dispatched there by Imperial orders. The function was attended by Vice-Admiral Hiromitsu Yanagiwara, principal of the institution, Admiral Viscount Takayoshi Kato, proxy of Navy Minister Admiral Shigetaro Shimada, Admiral Denshichi Okochi, Commander-in-Chief of the Maizuru Naval Station, other Naval and Army leaders and influential civilian officials as well as by the fathers and brothers of the graduates.

The graduation ceremonies of the Naval Paymasters' School were also solemnized on Wednesday on the campus of the institution in the august presence of His Imperial Highness Prince Morihiro Higashikuni.

FINLAND'S ANSWER IS SENT TO MOSCOW

Helsinki Refuses to Accept Soviet Terms; Details Given In Communique

Domei

HELSINKI, March 21.—The Information Board of the Finnish Government issued the following official communique, this morning, in which the Soviet armistice terms were pronounced as unacceptable:

"The Finnish Government, on February 29, was able to inform the Diet of the armistice terms which State Councillor Paasikivi had received from the Soviet Minister in Stockholm.

"Though the acceptance of these terms, as submitted, was found impossible, the Finnish Government, not wishing to reject the possibility of further negotiations, suggested to the Diet the continuation of contact with the Soviet representatives. The Diet shared the opinion of the Government.

"The Soviet Government was informed of the careful examination of its terms and it was suggested that the Finnish Government should be given the chance to state its opinions on all the problems connected with these terms.

"The Soviet Government, however, termed the Finnish reply as completely unsatisfactory and stated in its reply that the terms should be regarded as the minimum demands and that only after their acceptance would negotiations on the cessation of hostilities be possible.

"The Soviet Government, moreover, demanded a positive reply within a limited period of time.

"At the secret session of the Diet on March 14, Premier Linkomies, in announcing the Finnish suggestion and the Soviet answer to the proposal, stated that under the circumstances there was no possibility left but to give a reply declining the Soviet demand.

"In its reply, the Finnish Government again emphasized the necessity of the Finnish Diet being more precisely inforced regarding the formal interpretation of various points as well as the actual contents of the terms. That in spite of its endeavors to re-establish peaceful relations, the Government did not consider it possible to accept in advance, the Soviet terms, which

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AZAD HIND ALL SET FOR FINAL VICTORY

Provisional Government Expresses Resolve to Fight Until India Is Free

Domei

UNDISCLOSED BASE IN BURMA, March 21.—The resolve of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind to fight through to the end until the day of complete liberation of India from the British yoke and hope that the Indian people would cooperate with the Indian National Army and the Japanese in their struggle to free India were expressed in a statement issued by the same Government in the name of Subhas Chandra Bose, Head of the Government and Supreme Commander of the Indian National Army, at 4:30 p.m. today.

"At a time when the Japanese and Indian National Armies are advancing upon India across the border, the Provisional Government of India makes the following statement," begins the historic document.

"The successes so far achieved by the Japanese and Indian Allied Forces have made it possible for the Indian National Army to march upon Delhi across the Indian border. The Indian National Army has now begun its offensive upon the enemies of India. As a result of the cooperation from the Japanese Forces, the two Armies can now fight, shoulder to shoulder, against the American and British forces and their allies.

"The Provisional Government of Azad Hind hereby proclaims its solemn resolve to fight through to the end in friendship with Japan until the day of complete liberation of India from the British yoke.

"The Provisional Government of Azad Hind hopes that our compatriots, our own flesh and blood, will give every assistance, direct and indirect, to the Japanese-Indian Armies which are advancing to liberate India.

"The Provisional Government of Azad Hind guarantees to the people of India, its compatriots, that they need fear nothing so long as they do not cooperate with or assist the British, Americans and their allies in India.

"The Provisional Government of Azad Hind, also guarantees that it will establish a Government over the liberated areas and duly conduct

(Continued on Page 2 Col. 4)

ULTIMATE VICTORY IS OURS, SAYS TOJO IN SPEECH TO DIET

Warns However War Situation Is Serious and All-Out Efforts Necessary

The war situation was never more serious than at present but so long as the 100,000,000 people of Japan make the thoughts of the officers and men on the fighting fronts theirs and exert their utmost to increase the fighting strength of the nation, final victory will unfailingly be ours, Prime Minister General Hideki Tojo declared at the plenary session of the House of Representatives.

Resolute determination of the Government to cope with the unprecedented situation was clarified by the Prime Minister at the outset of the Diet session.

Declaring that the enemy was frantic in his efforts to end the war as soon as possible and was impatiently throwing his whole weight in the war against Japan, Prime Minister Tojo said that a golden opportunity was being offered us to "trap and exterminate the enemy and open the way to our ultimate victory." His speech follows:

Tense Situation

"I should like to take this opportunity to refer to the Government's resolution vis-a-vis the serious present war situation.

"During the last one month and a half, the war situation has become more intense as in the Pacific Ocean, the enemy attacked the Marshalls in great force and also air-raided the Marianas. By virtue of the gallant fight offered by our heroic men and officers on the spot, the enemy was repulsed for once but it is clear that relying as he does on his material abundance and being exultant over the somewhat favorable turn of events, he will again launch a large-scale offensive.

"The Empire is now facing the most intense stage of decisive battle when her rise or otherwise will be decided. Serious indeed is the war situation.

"At present, there no longer exists any difference between the fighting front and the home front. To execute resourceful stratagems daringly and simultaneously to have the 100 million people of Japan concentrate all the materials and their energies in their possession totally on the single objective of crushing America and Britain is the key to sure victory. I confidently believe that it is verily the Government's responsibility and the hearty desire of the 100,000,000 people as well to enable the officers and men on the foremost front to carry out daring, grand-scale operations untrammeled by any consideration for the home front.

"As you all know, the Government, in view of the prevailing war situation, decided on the 'Administrative Program Befitting the Prevailing Situation' in the latter part of September of last year and took urgent measures in accordance with it. By virtue of the extraordinary efforts exerted by the officials and people in full cooperation, fighting power, especially aerial fighting capacity, has since that time increased daily. I am extremely glad to be able now to make this testimony.

"However, the war situation has now become very tense and general conditions permit of no negligence even of a single moment. Accordingly, a new step was taken to make further closer the High Command

(Continued on Page 2 Col. 6)

TOJO REITERATES JAPAN AIMS TO CRUSH ENEMY INFLUENCE AND LEAVE INDIA TO INDIANS

Congratulates Azad Hind Army for Starting March To Homeland

STATEMENT ISSUED

Territories Will Be Placed Under Administration of Regime Headed by Bose

In a statement issued on Wednesday, Prime Minister General Hideki Tojo declared that Japan's object is to crush the enemy influence and to leave India completely in the hands of the Indian people.

Congratulating the forces of the Provisional Government of Free India for having embarked upon their march into their homeland in cooperation with the Imperial Japanese Forces, the Prime Minister made it known that all the territories of India into which the Azad Hind army advances will immediately be placed under the administration of the Provisional Government of Free India headed by Subhas Chandra Bose.

The Prime Minister reiterated that Japan will spare no efforts in extending all possible assistance and support in making possible the materialization of India's liberation from the tyranny and persecution of Britain. His statement follows:

"The Indian National Army under the command of the Head of the Provisional Government of Free India, Subhas Chandra Bose, has, in cooperation with the Imperial Japanese Forces, started its long-expected advance into the Indian homeland.

"It is a matter for sincerest congratulation that in the brief period of only half a year since the establishment of the Provisional Government of Free India the forces of the National Army have vigorously embarked upon their march. The joy of the four hundred million people of India who have been groaning under the tyranny and persecution of Britain for many years must surely be beyond our imagination.

"Japan's object is to crush the enemy influence and to leave India completely in the hands of the Indian people. All the territories of India into which the Indian National Army advances will immediately be placed under the administration of the Provisional Government of Free India. We may confidently expect that, with the growing patriotic fervor of the Indian people who welcome the advance of the National Army, the areas to be liberated will rapidly expand and that India's independence will ultimately and surely be realized.

"Indeed, India's independence is the unanimous will of all Asia and the demand of the world's sense of justice. Those who, knowing the distress and suffering of India, dare to interfere with the liberation of that country cannot but be regarded as the enemy of justice.

"Of course we cannot expect that the road of India's liberation will be easy. I earnestly hope that the army and people of India will cooperate and surmount all obstacles and continue their vigorous and valiant march toward victory and, at the same time, I declare once more the firm determination of Japan to spare no efforts in extending all possible assistance and support."

Stilwell Appointed Deputy Commander Under Mountbatten

Domei

LISBON, March 21.—Lieutenant-General Joseph W. Stilwell, Commander-in-Chief of the American Forces in China, India and Burma, on March 15, agreed to take the post of Deputy Commander of the anti-Axis Forces in Southeast Asia, states an announcement from the anti-Axis headquarters in that area, according to a report from New Delhi.

JAPANESE ADVANCE IN BURMA ADMITTED

Nippon Units, Crossing Chindwin River, Relentlessly Push On Toward Border

Domei

LISBON, March 21.—Effecting crossing over the Chindwin River the Japanese Forces are now advancing rapidly toward the Indo-Burmese border.

According to a New Delhi dispatch received here, the headquarters of the anti-Axis forces in Southeast Asia, in its communique issued at 8 p.m. (Indian standard time) on March 21, admitted the large-scale advance of the Japanese Forces. The communique said:

"West of the Chindwin River, the general westward movement of the Japanese is continuing. Japanese artillery and infantry units have attacked the anti-Axis position at Nippentang, north of Sunprabum."

Mountbatten Is Worried

Domei

LISBON, March 21.—The daring large-scale operation started by the Japanese Forces now advancing toward the Indo-Burmese border, is reported to have progressed and the Anglo-Indian army's desperate attempts to offer resistance have been frustrated.

According to a New Delhi report received here, the headquarters of Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten, Commander-in-Chief of the anti-Axis forces in Southeast Asia, was forced to recognize the serious situation in its communique issued today, which announced that the general westward advance of the Japanese Forces in the vicinity of the Chindwin River was still continuing.

Mountbatten's headquarters is now deeply worried over the future of the war situation, the report added.

Meanwhile, a Reuter dispatch sent from the Talea front on the night of March 21, also admitted the Japanese advance. The Reuter dispatch stated that the Japanese Forces were at present continuing their advance at several places on the Indo-Burmese front.

Concentrating troops, vehicles and war material on the banks of the Chindwin River, the Japanese Forces are delivering furious attacks along the Kabau Valley, the report added.

After crossing the Chindwin River at the point between Tan-

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Colorado Senator Hits U.S. Government In Open Break With Roosevelt Regime

Special

STOCKHOLM, March 21.—Breaking formally with President Roosevelt, Senator Edwin C. Johnson, Democrat from Colorado, in a speech today charged that "history will name the fourth term—if it ever materializes—as a term of defeat and frustration", according to a Washington dispatch. The Senator declared that Roosevelt's third term which ends this year will be known in history as the "term of appeasement."

Johnson said the New Deal appeased Japan by selling her all the war materials she could pay for; it appeased China with money and credit. After election, it appeased Britain by going to war. Johnson continued, "It's been appeasing everyone, everywhere, ever since, with Lend-Lease Act at the cost of billions to the American taxpayers. It appeased the Soviet Union by junking the Atlantic Charter. It appeased John Lewis and his Railroad Brotherhoods at the back door of the White House after scornfully turning them down at the front door with beating drums."

The Senator shouted, "One man control has reduced the Democratic Party to hopeless impotency. It no longer has inclination or will to resist those who exploit it. The Democratic Party is no longer Democratic. One man will name its candidate for President and Vice-President and write its platform just as it was done in 1940."

Crack Japanese Unit in Burma Thrashes, For Second Time, Enemy's 17th Division

By S. NAKAJIMA
Of the Army Press Corps

UNDISCLOSED BASE ON THE BURMA FRONT, March 21.—The crack X X Unit of the Imperial Japanese Forces, which has surrounded the 17th Division of the British-Indian army and is now engaged in putting it out of existence, has an old score to settle with the enemy . . . for it was this very same 17th Division against which the Japanese Unit found itself pitted two years ago in a battle during the Burma campaign.

Hence, on March 8, as soon as the Unit received orders to launch a thrust to annihilate this 17th Division, the Japanese officers and men climbed to the summit of Mt. Arakan and made a solemn vow that they would not return until their mortal enemies had been thoroughly beaten and crushed.

It was this profound resolution and the cooperative spirit, existent in the Imperial Japanese Forces, that carried the Unit to a point, from which, after threatening the most vital portion of the enemy, they are now in a position to deal their foe the coup de grace . . . all within the short space of five days following their march of 148 kilometers over hilly, jungle-covered terrain.

The gallant feat of this Unit is proving an endless source of inspiration to their comrades-in-arm and has heightened the firm resolve of the entire Japanese Forces in the area to continue dealing annihilative blows against their enemies until they are completely shattered.

HITLER SUMMONS HORTHY FOR URGENT CONFERENCE

Invites Hungarian Regent to His Headquarters for Important Talks

Domei

ZURICH, March 20.—Chancellor Adolf Hitler invited Admiral Nicholas Horthy, Regent of Hungary, and the Commander-in-Chief of the Hungarian armed forces to the Fuehrer's Headquarters today and is holding an urgent conference, according to the Anatolian News Agency's report from Bucharest.

Phone Connection Cut

Domei

STOCKHOLM, March 20.—The Hungarian Legation authorities here today announced that telephone communications with the homeland have been cut off.

Press Comments

Wednesday, March 22

TIME FOR INDIAN MASSES TO ARISE

ASAHI—Crack Imperial Japanese Army Units, in cooperation with the Indian National Army, have been carrying out furious attacks since March 8 upon the British-Indian forces which have been making stealthy move in the central Burma-India border region, and it is now reported that the main strength of the enemy's 17th Division, some 10,000 strong, has been completely encircled by the Japanese Forces, with fiercest annihilative battles developing, and also that a powerful detached force of the Japanese Army, again in collaboration with the Indian National Army, crossed the Chindwin River.

What the war results will directly bring will be extremely great and this need hardly be mentioned. It may well be said that the amazing growth and development attained by the Indian National Army and its close cooperation with the Japanese Army Forces have proved a great blow to the enemy. In those battles, indeed, are manifest most plainly the significance of the current War of Greater East Asia for liberation of East Asiatic peoples.

According to reports from the war front, British soldiers, again, in those battles are repeating their cruel old practice of fighting, with Indian soldiers made as their shields. On the other hand, we see that the officers and men of the Imperial Japanese Army and those of the Indian National Army are both fighting most valiantly in closest cooperation bound by strong affectionate ties of comradeship in arms. It is confidently believed that this will exert a beneficial far-reaching influence not only upon the Indian masses but also upon the 1,000,000,000 peoples of Greater East Asia.

Now, the Indian National Army, in great vigor and high spirits, is standing up in arms and fighting on the Indian border, thus showing actually to the fellow nationals in their homeland, groaning for many years under the British yoke, their belief and conviction, "Fight with weapons against the foe who fights with weapons." We fervently hope and expect that the 350,000,000 oppressed masses of India will respond to the declaration of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind and arise in unison to fight the British. A good opportunity is now here for the Indian masses to achieve their long-cherished independence.

ADVANCE OF INDIAN NATIONAL ARMY

TOKYO SHIMBUN—It is a fact already well-known to the world that the Indian National Army is already operating to snatch freedom for the people of India from the hands of the British. The Indian Army has been powerfully cooperating with the Japanese in the latter's forestalling campaign against the Southeastern Asiatic forces of the enemy. Yesterday's communique of the Imperial Headquarters has made clear the general outline of their operations and the progress being made. Subhas Chandra Bose, Supreme Commander of the Indian National Army and Head of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind, at the same time issued a statement declaring that the time had now come for the people of India to rise in arms to fight for their long-cherished aspiration and emphasized that the Indian National Army was advancing on Delhi.

There can be no doubt that the British in India, who have ruled over India for the last two hundred years in darkness and with a heavy hand, are acutely feeling the menace of the swift-moving events. The intense flame seeking an India for Indians is now spreading among the 380,000,000 people like prairie-fire at the hands of the Indian National Army.

"It has already been decided for us whether it shall be victory or defeat. It is our aim to thrust into India. I cannot say from where we shall enter India, but the day when we shall fight for the freedom of India on the very soil of India is now at hand." These words of the Netaji cannot fail to rouse the people of India. In fact, the sepoys incorporated into the Southeastern Asiatic forces of the enemy laid down their arms the moment they saw the tricolor of the Indian National Army and turned their rifles against the Union Jack. In Arakan, in an area near the Chin Hills, in the battle across the Chindwin River numerous sepoys joined the National Army. Recent foreign dispatches are reporting the panic that has seized the enemy camp now that the National Army is about to cross the border into India. With the Mountbatten army broken and the Stilwell American-Chinese force threatened in the flanks, it is interesting to note that the enemy, himself, is panic-stricken.

The province of Assam in which lies Manipur is adjacent to Bengal, Mr. Bose's native province, and is strategically important to the enemy. This new danger is likely to aggravate the internal conflict in the enemy camp between Mountbatten and Stilwell. Ever since Andaman and Nicobar Islands were turned over to the Provisional Government of Azad Hind, the Anglo-American propaganda against Japan has failed to produce any effect. Their defense of India has now been reduced to a mere wish rather than actuality. The joint victory of Greater East Asiatic nations that will be demonstrated by the operations of the Indian National Army promises all-out liberation of India.

INDIAN NATIONAL ARMY ON THE BORDER

MAINICHI—Each time that we were informed of the gallant fighting of the Indian National Army in the Indo-Burmese border theater of war, we wished to learn from the authorities how the army was faring. The speech of Subhas Chandra Bose at the second mass meeting held to commemorate the inauguration of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind, held at a certain base in Burma on March 19, and the statement of the Provisional Government which was issued on March 21 with the communique of the Imperial Headquarters have satisfied us to a certain extent. Both statements concerning the hostilities now in full swing, because of their brevity, have not fully satisfied us on that point but if the statements are considered in the light of the utter disorder into which the enemy 17th Division in the Chin Hills area has fallen, it is quite clear what they have endeavored to convey.

Especially, the statement of the Provisional Government, in that it is the first that was made since on February 4 the Indian National Army began to advance on the Arakan battlefield, is a document that should remain as historic literature. In his speech of March 19, the Netaji said: "We cannot state here when and how we shall enter India but war will soon break out within India." This indicates that the march of the National Army into India is now close at hand. We shall not be surprised to learn today that it has crossed the border. The situation may now be considered momentous. At such a time the statement of the Provisional Government must have come as a stimulant invigorating the patriotic sentiments of all Indians. To the United States and Britain it must have been a huge bombshell.

We have no doubt as to the welcome that the Indian National Army, now swelled to considerable proportions by the sepoys coming to join it, will receive at the hands of the Indian people. It is not difficult to gauge the state of feeling in India when we consider what sort of atmosphere prevails even in the Central Assembly which represents such variety of political tendencies.

HEALTHY AMUSEMENTS IN WARTIME

MAINICHI—The performance hours at our theaters and movie houses have been too long, even in peacetime. It is quite appropriate that the authorities have decided to shorten them. It is also timely that they have undertaken to improve and enrich the movie houses in the factory areas on the occasion of the dispersion of amusement centers.

As to just how amusements are to be renovated is a matter that cannot be disposed of so lighly. The greater the burden of the war, the more important the question of sound amusement is likely to be as part of national policy. When the authorities point to something that makes manifest the Japanese spirit, that is bright and cheerful as well as sound and simple and robust, something that will expedite the construction of a new order in national life, we must understand them to mean that these things are artistically woven into the themes of the plays or photoplays. No matter how fine the aims of the authorities may be, if they should turn to be illustrated sermons or dry lectures dressed up as drama, it may be sound but it will no longer be amusement. The production of a play or a film that is to embody some special ideology is a most delicate affair in actual practice. Especially at a time when the war is creating a special environment for national psychology, as many experts and professionals as possible should be availed of to show initiative and invention, instead of making it a work of officials, if sound amusement is to be most effectively disseminated.

The people, by now, have a firm grasp of the war aims. They are prepared to make every sacrifice until the day of final victory. To afford occasional relaxation to the taut nerves of the people and to open a smiling vista of the blue sky should be the aim of all amusement in wartime.

U.S. Cruiser Launched

Domei

LISBON, March 19.—The Dayton, a new 10,000-ton class cruiser of the United States navy, slided into the Delaware River at the New York Shipbuilding Company's Yard at Camden, New Jersey, on March 19, according to a dispatch from Camden.

U.S. OIL RESERVES ARE FAST DROPPING

One Reason Why Pipeline in Saudi Arabia Necessary, Declares Knox

Special

LISBON, March 21.—The United States Government's proposed plans for the construction of an oil pipeline through Saudi Arabia is dictated solely by the depleting of the United States oil reserves in the Western Hemisphere at "a dangerous rate," Frank Knox, United States navy secretary, declared at his press conference today, according to a Washington dispatch.

Knox added that 90 per cent of the oil used in the war was coming from United States resources "in this country and other parts of the Western Hemisphere."

Knox said that the conclusion that the United States oil reserves were diminishing was based on complete technical knowledge. Regarding the plan to build a pipeline through Saudi Arabia, Knox stated, "I don't think that the American people are going to let a lot of selfish oil companies divert them from that policy. Both militarily and economically, the new source of oil is exceedingly important and adds to our security."

Knox said that the pipeline would be financed by the Petroleum Reserves Corporation at the cost of about $150,000,000 and would extend over 1,000 miles from the Saudi Arabia fields to the Mediterranean.

War on East Front Grows in Violence

(Continued From Page 1)

bridgehead at the town of Narva from the west despite throwing in seven to eight divisions and a brigade of 44 tanks. Thirty-seven of these tanks, mostly T-34's, were ablaze, 22 by one German "Tiger" company. The German "Tigers" did not lose a single tank, the reports said.

Panzer Battle Raging

Domei

STOCKHOLM, March 20.—According to front line dispatches the Red Army under the command of Marshal Konev, which had crossed the Dniester River in the Jampol area south of Winnitsa, advanced to the west and southwest of the bridgehead extending 31 miles which they had established on the western bank of the river, and are attempting to cut off the road of retreat for the large German force in the southwestern corner of the Ukraine. However, as the German forces, in view of the aggravation of the fighting situation, have been throwing in reserve forces continuously and come out in a resolute counter-offensive, as fierce panzer battle between the two opposing forces is now in progress in the Bessarabian plains west of Jampol.

In parallel with the central breakthrough operations of the Konev army, it appears that Soviet forces under the command of Marshal Jukov during the past few days have been strengthening their attacks on the front extending from Kowel to Zhimelinka. At the present moment, fierce battles are in progress in the vicinity of the railway station at Kremenez, 37 miles to the north of Tarnopol, north of Proskurov, and in the Kowel area.

On the other hand, the Soviet forces under General Malinevski are keeping up their violent attack against the city of Nikolaev, but have as yet not succeeded in capturing the city.

Japanese Advance In Burma Admitted

(Continued From Page 1)

undou and Homalin and advancing toward the jungle area west of the river, the Japanese Forces were now engaged in a violent battle with the troops of the 14th corps of the Anglo-Indian army, the same dispatch reported.

Although the Anglo-Indian army is stubbornly resisting the frontal attack of the Japanese Units in the Kabau Valley, connecting the firing line between Tidim and Tamu, the report continued, the Japanese troops were vigorously attacking the anti-Axis forces with light and medium tanks.

At the same time, the Japanese Forces are planning to break through the southern part of the Kabau Valley and have caught the Anglo-Indian army in a cross-fire in the Witok sector.

Moreover, the Japanese troops advanced to the hilly district on both sides of Tidim and have occupied several enemy positions on and around the principal highway in that area extending about six miles, the Reuter dispatch concluded.

Fuehrer's Headquarters

March 21

Northeast of Nikolayev, the violent enemy attacks were not successful. On the Ukrainian Bug the Soviet bridgeheads were either mopped-up or reduced by German counter-attacks. In the penetration area on the middle course of the Ukrainian Bug violent fighting developed only near Smerinka. With strong formations of bombers and fighters the Lutfwaffe inflicted severe losses upon the Soviets advancing in the direction of the Dniester. Between Proskurov and Tarnopol, our counter-attacks reached the enemy positions. The Soviet forces were smashed and some gaps in the front closed. In the area of Krzemieniec and at Kovel the force of the enemy attacks increased. In the heavy fighting of fluctuating nature, 18 enemy tanks were either smashed or captured and one Soviet group that had broken into Kovel was annihilated.

South of the Pripet repeated enemy attacks failed between the Styr and the Goryn. From the rest of the Eastern Front only local fighting is reported. In the heavy fighting in the northern section of the Eastern Front the second company of the heavy tank detachment 502 under the command of First Lieutenant Schiller distinguished itself.

Lively scouting and shock troop activities are reported from the Nettuno beachhead. In the town of Cassino the enemy attack, supported by strong tank formations, bled to death before the fire of the German troops. Northwest of the city, an enemy fighting group was encircled.

In the noon hours of March 20, American bomber formations, escorted by strong fighter formations, crossed into southwestern Germany and carried out a terror attack against the town of Mannheim-Ludwigshafen as well as the suburbs of Frankfurt-on-Main. On these occasions as well as in the course of raids into the occupied western regions and on the Italian front 24 enemy planes were destroyed. Some enemy planes undertook flights over the Ruhr region and southern Germany.

Warships, escorting a German convoy in the Channel, repelled an attack by enemy motor torpedo boats one of which was set on fire and another so severely damaged that its loss must be reckoned with. The formation, commanded by Lieutenant-Commander Behrens, has thus far sunk in the last few days, five enemy motor torpedo boats and severely damaged two others. Long-range batteries of the navy last night bombarded the enemy coast and ships off Dover.

Finland's Answer Is Sent to Moscow

(Continued From Page 1)

would have a deep influence on the existence of the nation, without first obtaining a clear understanding of the contents and their interpretation.

Hitler Statement Lauded

Special

HELSINKI, March 21.—Referring to the interview with the Reichsfuehrer regarding the Finnish question, the paper, Ajan Suunta, on Tuesday evening, declared that the Fuehrer's statement, from a Finnish point of view, was interesting because of its clarity and frankness. The view which the German leader expressed, it said, is the same as that which decided Finland's attitude. This view, it declared, is entirely different from those who under the assurance of friendship for Finland supported the acceptance of the Soviet terms.

Moscow Radio Reveals

Special

LISBON, March 21.—The Moscow radio, today, quoted the Soviet Information Bureau as announcing that the Soviet Embassy in Stockholm had received the Finnish reply to the Soviet peace terms, according to a report received here.

The official Finnish reply, refusing acceptance of the terms without discussion, was delivered to the Soviet Embassy on March 8. Two days later, Finland was informed that the Soviet Government regarded the reply as unsatisfactory.

Following a negative reply to the Soviet peace terms by the Finnish Government on March 17, the Soviet Government announced that full responsibility for the consequences would rest with the Finnish Government.

Azad Hind All Set For Final Victory

(Continued From Page 1)

their administration.

"The Provisional Government of Azad Hind recommends to the people of India, its compatriots, to evacuate Anglo-American military barracks, munition factories, wharves and piers and other military establishments, because they may be attacked and destroyed."

ANTI-AXIS INABILITY ANNOYS CHUNGKING

Leaders Losing Confidence in Efforts of Mountbatten and Stilwell in Burma

Domei

LISBON, March 21.—The complete failure of Lieutenant-General Joseph W. Stilwell, Commander-in-Chief of the anti-Axis Forces in India, Burma and China to reopen the Burma route due to Japanese action has severely shaken Chungking's confidence in the anti-Axis, particularly after the campaign launched by Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten, Commander-in-Chief of the anti-Axis Forces in Southeastern Asia, ended in the practical collapse of his forces, according to reports from Chungking.

The news of the plight of Stilwell's army served to deepen the already growing dissatisfaction among the leaders in Chungking. Adding still further to their gloom, they were told that the Japanese Forces in the Chindwin area had assumed the offensive and that they were advancing rapidly. The uneasiness in Chungking was reflected in an editorial published by the Ta Kung Pao on March 20, which said, in effect, as follows:

"The Chungking forces mustered in Yunnan Province can only hope to advance from the north and east against the Japanese when Stilwell's troops have reached Bhamo and Myitkyina." The whole tone of the article enabled the reader to realize the anxiety felt in Chungking caused by the defeat of the combined Anglo-American forces in Burma.

Mopping-Up Stage Nears in Campaign On Burma's Border

(Continued From Page 1)

attacks by the Japanese Forces, Kenede Peak, the enemy's key position, fell into Japanese hands on March 17.

Due to the break-through battle at Kenede Peak, the enemy is now placed in a difficult position to defend the Teilom, the main defensive position, while an army of more than 10,000 strong of the enemy in the Tonzan and Tidim areas are now trapped like a mouse in a bag.

Facing Annihilation
By S. NAKAJIMA
Of the Military Press Corps

UNDISCLOSED BASE ON BURMA FRONT, March 21.—The 48th, 63rd and 14th Brigades, constituting the 17th Division of the British-Indian Army, are now facing annihilation within the Japanese encirclement ring in the Tonzan and Tidim sectors.

With the pressure by Japanese Units hourly increasing, the enemy remnants are fleeing into the surrounding jungles without arms and in utter disorder.

Meanwhile, the Sakae, Shibata, Iso and Tamura Units of the Japanese Forces, which had occupied the Kenede Peak fortress, started a new offensive against the Demulo position in front of Tidim on the night of March 18, while other Japanese Units launched severe attacks on Tidim from the Tonzan sector.

Japanese heavy artillery units, which had occupied X X, directed a terrific barrage of gunfire at the town of Tidim on the morning of March 19.

Intercept Fleeing Enemy
By S. NAKAMURA and K. MATSUDA
Of the Military Press Corps

UNDISCLOSED BASE ON BURMA FRONT, March 21.—The enemy forces which have been withdrawing from Tonzan in utter confusion are now being intercepted and dealt annihilative blows by the Japanese Forces in the Manipur Valley.

The Anglo-Indian troops stationed at Tonzan had offered stiff resistance by directing a severe barrage of gunfire at the Baitz fortress and the 564 Height, situated two kilometers east of Tonzan, for the purpose of facilitating the evacuation of Tidim by their comrade forces.

No longer able, however, to endure the vigorous attacks of the Japanese Forces started on March 14, the enemy gave up the Baitz fortress at 10:30 a.m. on March 18, thus exposing Tonzan to the Japanese who quickly captured the town. Since March 19, enemy troops have been attempting to flee into Indian territory by crossing the Manipur River at a point five kilometers southwest of Tonzan.

In the meantime, the enemy troops fleeing southward along the right bank of the Kapee River, northwest of Tonzan, have been caught up with and annihilated by the Irie, Nakaya and Sueki Units. In this annihilative battle, the Japanese Units captured a total of 200 motor cars and large amounts of ammunition and supplies. They are now further increasing their war results.

Ultimate Victory Is Ours, Says Tojo In Speech to Diet

(Continued From Page 1)

and Administration and simultaneously the Government took a more decisive step for domestic policies by formulating the 'Decisive War Emergency Measures Program' as an urgent step.

"The emergency step is for concentrating the nation's total strength on the single objective of increasing war power thereby to insure an unfailing victory, and, as such, will affect all phases of national livelihood. The Government expresses its heartfelt sympathy for the people in the hardships which the same measure will cause to them directly as well as indirectly.

Stresses Cooperation Received

"In this connection, the Government has hitherto done everything in its power to stabilize the national livelihood, whereas, in the future, it will continue to do its best for this purpose. The current emergency and the urgent step taken by the Government have added to the hardships of the people and caused increased inconveniences. And yet the people have renewed their determination to turn the whole soil of the Empire to a battlefield and to become, all of them, warriors in order to carry on this war through the present emergency to a final victory. They are willing to endure any and every hardship and positively devote whatever efforts as may be required.

"I am profoundly impressed by this spirit of the people and by the manner in which they are overcoming their difficulties, and I gain no end of encouragement from the contemplation upon them. It is by surmounting the host of difficulties confronting us that I have a firm conviction we may be certain of opening up the way leading to certain victory.

"The Government, based on this confidence of the people, feels it has a keener sense of the weightiness of its responsibilities and there is an intention on its part to adopt the best of policies designed to make it possible for us to prevail thoroughly in the war and enforce all the necessary measures for their execution.

"At this moment of supreme importance it has been arranged for the launching of a powerful national movement to get the people forge ahead toward the attainment of the objects of stimulating the fighting spirit, extending and strengthening production, securing the supply of foodstuffs, and defending the land. The Government will give the fullest measure of cooperation in the conduct of this movement of which it has reason to hope great things.

"The various States and races of Greater East Asia, which on the one hand are making greater exertions toward surmounting the difficulties besetting them and on the other are tightening the ties of cooperations between them, are setting themselves to crush the inordinate American and British ambition of invading East Asia once again. They are forging ahead in the interests of the construction of a new order for Greater East Asia.

"I take the opportunity for payment of great respect for and an expression of my gratitude to the various States and races of Greater East Asia for their vigorous fighting spirit and their hearty cooperation with Japan.

"As regards the Indian National Army under the leadership of Subhas Chandra Bose, the Head, it has started on the march on its fatherland under the close cooperation of the Imperial Japanese Forces, thereby realizing a long-cherished desire.

Policy Toward India

"The thing Japan wants in India is to bring about a collapse of the enemy's power there and place India completely in the hands of the Indians. It goes without saying that the land of India, the fatherland of the Indian National Army which is now on the march upon it, will at once be wholly placed under the administration of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind. In this way Indian independence, under the form of a reality, is about to take great strides. This is a matter of mutual congratulation. I imagine the joy of the 400,000,000 people of India over this development.

Says German Morale High

"In the European theater of war, our ally Germany has surmounted the various difficulties confronting her and has regained her resilient strength. Her fighting morale is now of the highest and she is ready to launch a determined offensive upon the United States and Britain. This is a matter over which we express our heartiest congratulations to the Reich. We pray that she will continue the struggle with redoubled vigor and secure the successes she so eminently merits.

"I repeat, that the war situation is most stringent and momentous. But in that the enemy is now in a frenzy of impatience to terminate the war and is throwing his whole weight into the campaign against us, we are afforded a golden opportunity to trap and exterminate the enemy and open the way to our ultimate victory. So long as the 100,000,000 people of Japan move as one man and make the thoughts of the officers and men on the foremost lines theirs and are animated by the spirit of constantly fighting on the battlefield, exerting their utmost to increase the fighting strength of the nation, the final victory cannot fail to smile upon us. I need not expatiate that until we gain the final victory we must undergo many difficulties and hardships. But the Government is firmly convinced that the people are equal to any ordeal, however trying, and that they will go forward in spite of all obstacles, increasing the fighting strength of the nation, fighting and fighting to the very last moment. In this we naturally expect much of the unusual exertions on the part of those of you who are in the positions of leadership to heighten the fighting morale of the people and to increase production. On this point, I earnestly hope that you will show a fuller understanding than ever as to the determination of the Government and give us your unstinted cooperation."

CHUNGKING'S STAND TOWARD REDS IS HIT

Communist Leader Chou Demands Recognition of Party's Status Throughout China

Domei

SHANGHAI, March 21.—Strongly criticizing Chungking's attitude toward the Chinese Communist party, Chou En-lai, Communist leader, in a speech on the 19th anniversary of the death of Dr. Sun Yat-sen on March 12, demanded Chungking recognition of the Chinese Communist party's status throughout China, according to reports received here.

Chou also demanded Chungking's recognition of local Communist governments established at various anti-Japanese bases, recognition of the Communist Eighth Route Army and new Fourth Army as part of the Chungking forces, revival of the Chinese Communist Army identification numbers deprived by Chungking, and the abolishing of restrictions forced on Communists in Communist-infested areas as well as in the Shensi, Kansu and Ningsia districts.

It is recalled that Chungking last year sent Chiang Ching-kuo to Sian in an effort to effect a conciliation between Chungking and Communist groups. However, in face of numerous demands made by the Communists, the efforts to reach an agreement met with failure.

LONDON TIMES COMMENTS ON ATLANTIC CHARTER

Trying to Give New Interpretation to Meet 'Change in Situation'

Domei

LISBON, March 20.—In an editorial entitled "The Interpretation of the Atlantic Charter" appearing in its today's issue, the Times, London, asserted that diplomatic policies as well as national policies cannot be restricted by the enunciation and application of general principles, according to London reports.

The Times insisted that it was of prime importance to make the general principles of the Atlantic Charter coincide with actual politics and that, otherwise, the Charter would be washed away by the changes of the situation.

The foregoing insistence by the Times is interpreted as reflecting the views of the British Government and, as such, indicates the fact that the London Government intends to nullify the Atlantic Charter on the grounds of the "changes in the international situation," thus leaving the exiled regimes of various European countries to their fate.

ESSEN RAIL SERVICE USES MOBILE BOOKING OFFICES

Will Prove Invaluable if Stations Are Damaged During Air Raids

Special

LISBON, March 20.—The local German railway administration in Essen has introduced motorized booking offices as a kind of precautionary air raid measure, according to reports received here.

To assure the maintenance of the railway service in case one of Essen's railway stations are damaged in a raid, these mobile offices can be moved to the bombed station to handle the bookings.

A number of old buses have been rebuilt for this purpose, each one carrying three fully equipped booking offices. The railway administration is planning to use the mobile booking offices not only after air raid but also when there is a traffic rush which requires quick handling of passengers.

'Sea Monster' in Chile

Special

LISBON, March 21.—A "sea monster" appeared recently, in the Chilean city of Punta Arenas, situated on Magallane Straits, it is reported from Buenos Aires. The monster measured four meters in length and weighed about one ton. It left the water and moved through the city's streets until it finally ran into a Chilean Carabinieri who shot it. The monster turned out to be a sea cow with a hairy dog-like head.

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AZAD HIND'S DRIVE HAILED BY IGUCHI

Spokesman Declares Indian National Army Now Ready to March Into India

The Indian National Army's advance toward India was hailed in a statement issued on Wednesday by Sadao Iguchi, Spokesman of the Board of Information, as a matter of historic significance for the Indian independence movement and as giving boundless hope for its future. Pointing out that the Indian anti-British movement had a long history of more than a hundred years and that it had surmounted innumerable obstacles, the Spokesman lauded highly the fiery will of the Indian patriots who have and are still today, staking their very lives in their drive for victory and independence.

Mr. Iguchi said that the reason why the Indian independence movement had hitherto failed was that the people of India did not have the means until now to arm themselves and drew attention to the fact that with three million Indians in East Asia united under the Provisional Government of Azad Hind under the dynamic leadership of Subhas Chandra Bose and with the formation of the Indian National Army, the first step forward for the arming of the Indian people had been accomplished. The Spokesman declared that the Indian National Army's successes against the British in the Arakan operations which began on February 4, were concrete proof to the Indian people at home and to the world of Indian armed prowess.

"The people of Japan, sharing as they do the same blood as the Indians, as a people of Asia, and fighting as they are in the same cause of crushing British imperialism, cannot withhold their unbounded joy over the reports of this splendid achievement," the Spokesman declared, adding that though the British may do their utmost to hold on to India, nothing would be of avail in fighting Indian resistance at home and the fury of the independence army now knocking at the gates of India. Concluding his statement, Mr. Iguchi said that Japan desires to extend all her national assistance and support to Subhas Chandra Bose and his Provisional Government and the Indian National Army in the firm conviction that, through this war, India will surely win her freedom and national independence.

Historical Significance Seen

The full text of the Spokesman's statement follows:

"The Indian National Army of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind is about to cross the Indian border as a result of successful joint operations with the Imperial Japanese Forces. This advance into the home soil of India is a matter of historic significance for the Indian independence movement and gives boundless hope to its future.

"As Subhas Chandra Bose has declared in a statement, India's anti-British independence movement has a long history of more than a hundred years. At the time of the last World War, Britain coerced India into the war with the promise of home rule as a reward, but as soon as the war was over Britain trampled upon her given word. Since then the independence movement has become more intensified.

"It is literally a miracle that though India has been robbed of all weapons, Gandhi and many other Indian patriots as well as a countless number of Indian people have upheld and carried on the independence struggle in the face of many overwhelming obstacles, staking, indeed, their very lives with undying faith in their ultimate victory. This struggle manifests to the world that the noble spirit of India will ultimately win over the brute forces of British injustice.

"The indomitable courage of the Indian people in resisting British pressure to enter the war, the high-handed exactions upon India's manpower and resources, the conversion of India into a military base and other British policies of force taken since the beginning of the war contrasts sharply with the severity of the British measures and moves us strongly. But why, in spite of these heroic efforts, has the movement for Indian independence failed so far to succeed and instead has resulted in the imprisonment of Gandhi and tens of thousands of patriots? The foremost reason is to be found in the fact that the people of India have had no means to arm themselves and it is armed force that is a prime requisite in crushing British control and carrying through the independence struggle to its final goal.

Initial Steps Taken

"In July, 1943, three million Indians in East Asia united under the Provisional Government of Azad Hind with Subhas Chandra Bose as its head and by creating the Indian National Army accomplished the first great step toward the arming of the Indian people.

"The crack forces of the independence army, which had since their formation been polishing their arms and preparing for the day of advance into their homeland, cooperated in our operations against the British in the Arakan which began on February 4 and succeeded in smashing their sworn enemy, the British army, thus giving concrete proof to their countrymen at home and to the world of Indian armed prowess. The people of Japan, sharing as they do the same blood as a people of Asia and fighting as they are in the same cause of crushing British imperialism, cannot withhold their unbounded joy over the reports of this splendid achievement by India's own forces. Inspired with confidence and hope by the success already achieved, the Indian National Army today is on the march, fully conscious that each advance, each piece of Indian soil they wrest back from the British, brings the Indian people nearer to their ultimate goal.

"Since the attitude of India will determine Britain's doom or survival, it is to be expected that the British will exert their last desperate efforts to hold on to India as a military base. But no matter how unscrupulous the measures the British may take, one stern and immovable fact remains—the indestructible spirit of the Indian people for independence and their complete distrust and enmity toward Britain. The greater the oppression which the British may apply in their desperation the greater will become the intensity of Indian resistance at home and the fury of the independence army now knocking at the gates of India.

British Control Doomed

"The new situation that has been brought about by the enhancement of the anti-British independence spirit, the decline of British military strength, the intensification of the military pressure from the outside and the participation of armed revolutionary power of India herself promises the day when the British control of India will have been completely destroyed from its foundations.

"As the Japanese Government have declared from time to time, the defense of Japanese existence against Anglo-American control means, at the same time, the liberation of the peoples of East Asia from the shackles of Britain and America. Accordingly, Japan desires to extend all her national assistance and support to Subhas Chandra Bose and his Provisional Government and the Indian National Army in the firm conviction that through this war India will surely win her freedom and national independence."

Boy Volunteers Ready

A grand send-off ceremony for the boys who have volunteered to serve in the Army or the Navy upon graduating from the senior course of national schools, was held at the Army Gendarmes' School at Nakano-ku yesterday morning, under the auspices of the Dai Nippon Youths Corps, says Domei. During the ceremony, Governor Shigeo Odachi of Tokyo Metropolis who is head of the Tokyo Youths Corps, and others, delivered encouraging addresses.

Wife of Azad Hind Secretary Inspired As National Army Nearing Motherland

"Itte irasshai"—such are the simple but courageous words of farewell with which the Japanese women send their beloved husbands, sons and brothers to the front. At this very moment I should like to say the same to my husband and to the men of the Indian National Army who are now surging toward Assam and Bengal on the sacred mission of liberating their motherland," remarked Mrs. Satya Der Sahay, wife of the Minister without Portfolio and concurrently Chief Secretary of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind, according to the Mainichi.

Mrs. Sahay is now convalescing at the Kurihara Hospital at Jimbocho, Kanda, Tokyo. Upon receiving the successive news of the victorious advance of the Indian National Army toward the Indian border in cooperation with the mighty Japanese Forces, she further remarked as follows:

"I feel I cannot stay in bed while my countrymen are bravely marching forward. As soon as I feel better, I will go immediately to the broadcasting station and call out over the radio to my countrymen in Bengal. I can well imagine how fearlessly the Indian National Army is now marching on to Delhi. I wish I could encourage them personally or join the Army and march together on into Bengal.

"At the beginning of this month I received a letter from my husband in which he wrote that he was having a very busy time fighting in the daytime and contriving strategy in the evening. He added that Bengal was so near that the trees and highways all looked familiar to him. He then exhorted me to perform my duty and follow the example of the Japanese women who are tightening the defense of the home front.

"I am not satisfied with merely looking after my four children. Burning patriotism urges me to contribute my share toward the successful consummation of the campaign. From April I am determined to do my share in broadcasting to my motherland.

"When the Japanese women say good-bye to their husbands, sons and brothers who are leaving for the front, they say, "Itte irasshai." I like those words which carry such a profound meaning. To express my feeling in words I have written the following poems:

1. Lying in bed,
   In dream I follow the march
2. For centuries India has bled for freedom,
   How often the Indian women whispered, "Do not come back wounded,"
   Putting their tender hands on the shoulders of their hero-husbands.
3. Under the window snow is dazzlingly white,
   When the Japanese women see their sons off
   Whom they have fostered with caressing hands.
4. Shall I put my hands on the shoulders of the Indian soldiers
   Now marching into their motherland,
   And say, "Itte irrashai"

LONG CLOSED DOOR TO INDIA IS OPENED

Indian National Army Steadily Advancing Backed Up by Japanese Forces

The door to India is about to be opened as the Indian National Army backed by powerful Imperial Japanese Forces are steadily closing in on the Indo-Burmese border running over the Patukai Mountain ranges, as announced by the Imperial Headquarters in a communique issued on Tuesday.

The Imperial Forces and the Indian National Army started vigorous offensive operations early in February, smashing all enemy counter-attacks along the 1,000-kilometer border between Burma and India. They crossed the Chindwin River on March 15 and are now rigorously breaking their way toward the Patukai Mountains.

The present operation by the Japanese Forces and the Azad Hind Fauj is significant in that it has opened the long closed entrance to India. It may be recalled in this connection that Subhas Chandra Bose, Head of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind and the Commander-in-Chief of the Indian National Army, in his statement issued on January 7 on the eve of the grand campaign for the liberation of his motherland, declared:

"No force can detach us from final victory. The victory in the war for converting the ruined India into a new free India is unmistakably ours. We shall devote our body and soul to the drive to Delhi."

Not long after the beginning of the great military operations, the British 7th Division was annihilated in the southern border area.

Having gained strategic superiority at the Chindwin basin, the Japanese Forces and the Indian National Army launched a resolute general offensive combatting persistent enemy counter-attacks as well as the terrific natural obstacles. A vanguard contingent has already reached the border line at a point and is firmly securing its foothold. The Burma campaign has now changed its nature from a defensive battle for protecting Burma to a positive operation for the liberation of India.

Commander-in-Chief Bose significantly stated: "We shall advance along all possible routes but all these routes invariably lead to one terminus, Delhi, the capital of India." The road to Delhi is now about to be opened.

It was early in February that the Japanese Forces started their campaign in the Buthidaung area in south Burma and, when the Indian Seventh Division was annihilated there, the enemy caused the 26th Division to take its place. The new Division with the Fifth Division assumed an offensive operation. The Japanese successfully held these enemy divisions in the area on the one hand, while they developed a new offensive in the Chin Hills area, on the other. In this area the Japanese Forces in concert with the Indian National Army carried everything before them. Cutting the paths of enemy retreat, the Japanese encircled the enemy 48th Brigade and 63rd Brigade, numbering about 10,000, in that area in four days after the start of their operation. These two brigades formed the mainstay of the 17th Division.

An intensive pursuit operation also was instituted by the Japanese Forces against the enemy's West African 81st Division wriggling in the Kaladan Valley, east of the Arakan Mountains.

REMARKABLE FEAT OF SAKAI UNIT TOLD

Holds Hill Position on Burma Border for 4 Months Under Enemy Fire and Crushes Foe

By K. MATSUDA AND J. ARIMURA
Of the Military Press Corps

AT X X ON THE INDO-BURMESE BORDER—The splendid feat of the Sakai Unit in holding its position with only a small force for four months under enemy artillery fire and bombs, receiving no less than 50,000 shells, and in crushing the enemy's 17th Division after crossing the steep Kenede Peak has become one of the imperishable legends of the Indo-Burmese border campaign.

The solid defense on Kenede Peak was as good as its reputation as the stoutest fortress on the Chin Hills, which the Anglo-Indian 17th Division depended upon as its advance guard position. The experience of having suffered Fort White to be captured by the Japanese in November last year was fully availed of by the British in their construction of this fortress. Fort White stands 7,758 feet high and Kenede Peak, 8,871 feet just 12 kilometers north of it. From this high position the enemy concentrated their furious artillery fire on Fort White which had been occupied by the Japanese.

Since November 14 last year when it occupied Fort White, the Sakai Unit held the 8,198 feet hill in front of it as its chief position and for four months since then awaited the order to attack under terrific enemy fire. Shrapnel, armor-piercing shells and liquid flame shells came thick and fast without cessation day and night. As least 50,000 shells were computed as having been fired at this single position. In the interval, there were also bombs dropped from enemy planes. On this small mountain position, about 10 bombs were dropped daily on the average, showing what great importance the enemy attached to Kenede Peak.

Artillery Action Intensified

In February the enemy artillery action intensified, if that were possible. In the early part of the month ten and several thousand shells whistled past or fell short of the Japanese position. On February 6, 3,800 shells were counted; on February 25, 3,300 and on February 26, 3,500. On February 26, for instance, all the trees in front of the position were blown off or burnt away and the position lay exposed to the enemy fire without any barbed-wire entanglements or cover. Sub-Lieutenant Motoki and several others were buried alive under the debris caused by shells. No sooner had they been dug out than they were subjected to attack by enemy forces and they charged into their midst.

It being dry season on the Chin Hills area, it was difficult to obtain water and the artillery fire and bombs raining on the place in mad fury made movement to get water extremely perilous. The unit at one time went without water for three days. More than once their communications with headquarters were cut. But by dint of iron discipline and unity, the Sakai heroes surmounted all these difficulties and on the morning of March 17 they charged into the enemy position on Kenede Peak and put them to rout. They are now in full pursuit after the enemy flying for their lives toward the Anglo-Indian stronghold at Tidim.

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East Asia Round-Up

Bolsters Defense Set-up

Domei

MANILA March 22.—Demolition, rescue and fire-fighting units will be expanded and augmented throughout the metropolitan area under the direction of the newly-created Civilian Protection Service. Rescue and fire-fighting units will be set up in every neighborhood unit, while air-raid shelters will be built in convenient places.

Chinese Martyr Remembered

Domei

CANTON, March 22.—The fifth anniversary of the death of Dr. Tseng Chung-ming, pioneer in the peace movement, who was assassinated on orders by Chungking, was solemnly observed here yesterday.

Another P.I. Official Named

Special

MANILA, March 22.—Rafael Alunan, Minister of Agriculture and Natural Resources, announced recently that Hilario S. Silayan, ex-director of Plant Industry, has been appointed as his personal assistant to direct the food production campaign.

Baguio Ministers Cooperate

Domei

BAGUIO, March 22.—In order to coordinate further the religious activities of Protestants here, thus contributing toward the success of the independent Philippines, Protestant ministers have recently formed the Baguio Ministers Association.

Hsinking Holds Ceremonies

Special

HSINKING, March 22.—On the occasion of Shunki Koresai, befitting ceremonies were held this morning at the Hsinking Shrine with many Government officials as well as representatives of the Kwantung Army attending.

Creates Board of Review

Domei

MANILA, March 22.—In order to further elevate the standard of stage and screen entertainment, President Jose P. Laurel recently created a Board of Review for moving pictures, plays, dramas, operas, vaudevilles and other theater shows.

P.I. Officials Take Oath

Special

MANILA, March 21.—Rafael Alunan, Minister of Agriculture and Natural Resources, yesterday, presided over the oath-taking ceremony for the director and assistant-director of the newly created Bureau of Agricultural Development, Bernardo Torres and Eugenio Vera, respectively.

NEW HEAD CHOSEN FOR STEFANI NEWS

Barzini, Noted Newsman, Made President by Fascist Republican Government

Luigi Barzini, Sr., who is internationally known as an outstanding Italian journalist, was appointed recently as president of the Stefani News Agency by the competent authorities of the Fascist Republican Government of Italy, according to a report received here.

Born at Orvieto in 1874, Mr. Barzini started his career as a journalist while he was still very young and for 25 years he was the traveling correspondent of the Il Corriere della Sera, a daily published in Milan. He has traveled all over the world and his correspondences are remembered as among the most interesting journalistic literary compositions. As an impressionist he is ranked among the best.

During the Russo-Japanese War, he covered the front, and his reports on the war proved very popular among the Italian general public. The valor of the Japanese soldiers had made such a deep impression on his mind that he was able to give a vivid illustration to the people in Italy of what was going on at the front.

Mr. Barzini described the Battle of Mukden so vividly that the heroic exploits of the Japanese soldiers gained lasting fame among the Italian public.

Subsequently, he wrote and published a book, "The Russo-Japanese War," which even a number of years after the event found a public ready for its hearty acceptance.

Mr. Barzini was in America for a long time where, in cooperation with the Crespi interests, he founded the daily, Corriere d'America, in New York. In this newspaper, he supported in the most vigorous manner the Fascist regime and the wonderful work that Premier Benito Mussolini had been doing in Italy.

When Mr. Barzini left America, he went with his family to Italy where he settled down as the editor-in-chief of the daily, Il Mattino, which was published in Naples and, afterward, as president of the Italian Press in 1932.

Il Duce had appointed Mr. Barzini a Senator.

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INDIANS IN SHONAN FETE SECOND AZAD HIND DAY

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SHONAN, March 21.—A mammoth procession and a mass meeting featured the second observance of the Provisional Government of Azad Hind Day by the Indians here today.

National tri-color flags fluttered over every Indian residence and business house, while special prayers were offered at all the Indian places of worship.

The gigantic parade, participated in by detachments of the Indian National Army volunteers and members of the Rani of Jhansi Regiment, wended its way through the main streets of the city terminating in front of the premises of the Indian Independence League where a huge crowd had thronged for the mass meeting.

After speeches on the significance of the day had been delivered by prominent Indians, the mass meeting concluded with the passing of resolutions reaffirming allegiance to the Provisional Government and congratulating the Azad Hind Army on the series of victories won by them in concert with the Japanese Forces on the Arakan Front, as well as reiterating conviction in the achievement of the complete independence of India.

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TOKYO, THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 1944

A Transparent Trickery

Despite the failure of their latest military campaign to reconquer Burma, the British have no intention of giving up their efforts to bring this now independent nation once more under their imperialistic domination. This much is clear from the plans they are making to supplement their military efforts with political cajolery. What line this political action will take was foreshadowed by the frankly cynical plan advocated by the New Statesman and Nation in its issue of January 29.

According to this British journal, the greatest obstacle in the path of the British ambition is the fact that Burma has already tasted the sweet fruit of independence through the help of Japan. The Burmese have already seen with their own eyes the British overlord driven out and a purely Burmese government restored. The Burmese will never be content to go back to the former undisguised British rule. The problem for Britain therefore, says this journal, is to promise to the Burmese something which will appear to be as attractive as their present independence but which will leave the substance of power to the British. If such a promise can be formulated, the British hope the Burmese might be induced to abandon their alliance with Japan and to give up their resistance to the British plans for conquest.

Such a promise must be designed to make it appear that the return of the British to Burma will be merely a transition state and that as soon as it is physically possible the Burmese will be invited to frame for themselves a "free" constitution and negotiate with Britain on a footing of "equality" a treaty to settle their relations for the future. But such a treaty will have to include special arrangements for the garrisoning of Burma by British troops. Such a special arrangement, the British journal blandly asserts, is inevitable "from the nature of things" and "should be accepted as practical common sense".

But how deceptive and treacherous such a promise would be is proved by the fact that it is admittedly similar to the proposal made by Sir Stafford Cripps to India in 1942, a proposal so monstrous that the Indian National Congress showed not the slightest hesitancy in curtly turning it down. Such a constitution as the British propose for Burma, like the Cripps' counterpart, does not provide for total independence, for the garrisoning of British troops in Burma would obviously prevent the unhampered enjoyment by the Burmese people of the real fruits of freedom. Under this proposal, the British would always be at liberty to prolong indefinitely the duration of the "transition state" on the slightest pretext and to defer the fulfillment of their promise to grant eventual independence to Burma, with their characteristic faithlessness and duplicity. The offer is an obvious trap to spring Burma back into the British Empire where she would be pilloried, robbed, bled and lashed to exhaustion while the British garrisons look passively on.

The smug presumptuousness of the British in thinking that Burma would fall for such an addle, stupid offer suggests the intense depths of their mental agitation and mortification over the real independence which Burma has already secured. The solemn proclamation of the restoration of Burma's sovereign status on August 1, 1943 has apparently dealt a hard, cruel blow at the bloated egotism of the British imperialists. Their fond delusions of being welcomed back to Burma have been terribly shattered. They see before them a country with real independence, with a government established and run by the Burmese people themselves and with an army spontaneously organized to resist the re-invasion of their liberated land by their former British overlord. They see the Burmese people solidified by a consciousness of independence—a consciousness that rears like a towering wall against British re-infiltration. Hence the British stratagem to treat Burma "on the footing of equality." Hence their pathetic offer of a "free" constitution. Their proposal reflects the workings of a desperate mentality, almost a criminal mind, fiercely resorting to any form of low deception to bring back in chains the country that has been freed by the power of Japan, even blind to the stupidity of asking the Burmese people to exchange the real independence which they now possess for false "freedom" which is but a return to their former slavery.

The Burmese will never fall for such trickery, but the contemplation of such a plan reveals more clearly than ever the incorrigible character of British imperialistic ambitions.

The Turko-German Commercial Treaty

A report from Istanbul discloses that on March 19 a new commercial treaty was concluded between Germany and Turkey. Under its terms Germany is to send approximately $11,000,000 worth of medicines and industrial materials while Turkey in exchange is to send fish, tobacco, and other commodities. The conclusion of this commercial treaty furnishes an indication of one of the reasons why the recent attempts of Britain and the United States to force Turkey into the war on their side have failed. That reason is: the economic welfare of Turkey demands her neutrality.

Turkey stands to gain nothing by entering the war on the side of Britain and the United States. All that these two Powers want is to convert Turkey into a base for their military operations and to utilize Turkish lives and resources for their own ends. For this purpose, all that they are willing to offer, or are able to offer, in exchange is the sending of a thin, inadequate trickle of military supplies under Lend-Lease arrangements. And even these military supplies have been cut off since Turkey evinced her unwillingness to agree to such a lop-sided bargain. For this inadequate military aid, they expected Turkey to shed her life blood in fighting a war which does not concern her in the slightest.

In contrast, Germany is in a position to furnish Turkey with the medicines and industrial materials which Turkey needs. Germany is also in a position to furnish a market for the products of Turkey. Moreover the entire Balkan region constitutes an area where Turkish trade can flourish for Turkey's profit and advantage. All these would be lost if Turkey were to enter the war on the side of Britain and the United States. Thus, purely from the point of view of material advantages alone, it is easy to see why Turkey has so steadfastly stood by her precious neutrality.

But material advantages of the moment are not the only consideration. The paltry and niggardly aid which Britain and America would offer Turkey in return for stupendous sacrifices on the latter's part, the pressure and coercion they have exerted when Turkey naturally declined their proposition, the sheer effrontery of their aim to exploit Turkey for their own selfish ends must have convinced Turkey that her future would be endangered by any close association with these Powers under any circumstances. Their whole philosophy of utilizing others for their own gain must be revolting to Turkey's self-respect.

In contrast, Germany puts no pressure on Turkey. Germany does not try to push Turkey into the war. Germany offers an advantageous bargain on a basis of reciprocity in economic relations with Turkey. This economic relationship may eventually form an integral unit in the structure of the New Order which will bring rational organization and cooperative unity to all of Europe for the enrichment of each component part. It is no wonder that Turkey has preferred to renew her sensible commercial relations with Germany instead of marching into war against her at the command of the presumptuous Anglo-Americans.

A Year Ago Today

March 23, 1943

Stressing the difficulty of maintaining a large air force in China merely by means of supply through air transportation, General Henry H. Arnold, Commander-in-Chief of the United States Army Air Force, declared that real aid to Chungking and the bombing of the Japanese mainland from air bases in China will not be realized before the Burma Route is reopened and the land supply transportation materialized. General Arnold pointed out that inasmuch as the air routes in India and China lead over mountains higher than the Rockies, the engines of aircraft are frozen during flight in winter and in summer, thunderstorms and hurricanes greatly hinder the operation. Moreover, he said that Chungking has not a drop of gasoline, therefore all fuel used in China must be supplied by air.

New Trend of India's Fight

Greater East Asia War Considered Opportune Moment For Attainment of Independence

By YASUNOSUKE WAKIYAMA
(From the Kagaku Shicho)

Among the resemblances between India and the Roman Empire pointed out by J. R. Seeley in his famous work, "Expansion of England," are territorial vastness, and the difficulty of rule. But the striking dissimilarity is that while the Roman Empire was a state of the Romans, India is not that of the Indians. The latter is merely a British possession and has been one for the past 180 years.

From the British standpoint, India is a unit in the British Commonwealth of Nations united through loyalty to the British crown, and a valuable section thereof, making remarkable contribution to the development of the Empire. For India, however, there is nothing but a memory of incessant maltreatment and exploitation, giving impetus to her desire for independence.

Among the problems of the British Government those concerning Indian defense and finance are of paramount importance. With the exception of that in the homeland, Britain has maintained in India greater armed forces than in any other part of the Commonwealth. Indian soldiers have from time to time been sent to other parts of the world, while all the expenses for the upkeep of such a huge army has been borne by the Indian people themselves. Also, loans and home-country expense are used to assure exploitation of the economic possibilities, which thereby become both the object and the means of British rule.

For administrative purposes, the country is divided into two parts: British India and the Indian States. Under the supervision of the British Governor-General the Indian States are each allowed an autonomous rule, except pertaining to foreign representation and defense. The States, numbering some 600, rule over two-fifths of the Indian territory, and over a population of 93,000,000 souls.

The chief national issue, that of independence, has had a long history, marked by many ups and downs for more than half a century, since the formation of the All-India National Congress in 1885. All other problems concerning India converge on this supreme question, which is now nearing solution as a result of the War of Greater East Asia.

The Communal

And in connection with it has risen the communal problem, mainly from the clash between the Hindu and the other religious communities, especially the Mohammedans. The fundamental causes for this social strife are traced to artificial abetment by British authorities. The communal election system, which was inaugurated by the British as part of the Government of India Act of 1935, which is still in force, was intended to assure an equilibrium among the different religions, but it has proved to be a tragic source of discord, by fanning the political ambitions of contending parties for posts in the federal and provincial governments, and has led to great many casualties every year since its adoption.

The so-called Pakistan scheme was proposed by the Federation of Mohammedans in March, 1940, as the result of the social unrest among the population, and called for the division of India into two districts, one populated mostly by Hindus and the other by Mohammedans. But such a plan would in substance hinder the independence movement, inasmuch as it would render difficult a unified action. This apparent political antagonism between the two religious groups was mentioned as one of the three reasons for the disruption of the Cripps Conference in Aprill, 1942, in a report made to the British Parliament. The others were the approach of the Japanese Army to the Indian border, and the demand for immediate independence by the All-India National Congress. Thus, faced with an excellent opportunity for gaining its long cherished independence, India's internal condition presents a picture of paradoxical nature.

But the political problems of India do not end here. For one, no mention has been made of the question of the reform of the constitutional laws which is most vital both to the ruler and the ruled. The outstanding issues, however, are that of British rule, the Indian Native-States, the Communal problem, and the independence movement.

British Rule Reviewed

British rule in India is not very old; it covers a period of only 170 odd years, even including the days of the East India Company's activities, and only 70 years since being formally included as part of the Commonwealth of Nations in 1858. During this time, some 53 administrators held the reigns of government, their average term being little more than three years. Both Edward VII and George IV travelled to their Asiatic possession in 1904 and 1911 respectively, to hold their coronation ceremonies, which events inflicted heavy financial burdens on the country. But such rituals, intended to display to the world the prestige of Britain and to impress the Indian populace, proved only to be costly expenditures.

It was Adam Smith who advocated that Britain should abandon India on the ground that it was causing undue difficulty to the English budget and augmenting her responsibility in European politics to an unnecessary degree. Nor has this idea been banished today.

And Seeley's explanation for the reason why, after long years, Britain has continued to face difficulties in ruling India, is that though conquered territorially, India has refused to become a colony of England. In other words, Britain has been unable to assimilate the populace, which possessed a high degree of culture from before her advent. The lack of feeling of kinship between the British and the native peoples, in other words, is advanced as the main cause.

However, we find numerous examples in India's history in which she has successfully and completely assimilated with alien races. Thus the true fault must lie elsewhere, in the fact that the fundamental British policy for rule in the country was devoid of a moral principle, such as embodied in the construction of Greater East Asia. She dominated India, solely for selfish ends, with no thought for the welfare of the people. It is this factor which will also bring about her downfall.

The aristocratic form of government is maintained in India. While the actual administration is in the hands of a large number of officials who have passed the strict Indian civil service examination, the viceroyal post and the governorship of the three vital provinces of Bengal, Madras and Bombay are filled by members of illustrious British families, who live in a high degree of extravagance, allegedly befitting the dignity and grandeur of the conqueror. The exorbitantly high salaries of officials from the homeland are intended, not so much as a means to exploit the Indian people, but in order to impress upon them the superiority of the British race.

Materialistic Designs

Another feature of British rule is that of materialism. Modern England, which was developed as a mercantile state, possesses very little spiritual element, and the pursuit of profit itself is considered by her people to be of prime importance and significance. With idealism and righteousness absent in the relation between the Mother State and the subject nation, nothing remains but materialistic aims. As the communication and transportation systems progressed in the latter half of the 19th century, the duties of the governor-general came to be increasingly controlled by the Secretary of State for India, and the former gradually lost all initiative powers of rule. Pressure exercised by British capitalists succeeded in ousting officials of comparatively fair judgement such as Thomas Munro and C. T. Metcalfe from their posts.

The aristocratic form of government, the materialistic administration, and the complex of superiority over the ruled—the essence of British rule in India—has reached the marginal point.

The retreat of the British in India began as early as 1909 when the first of a series of reforms were enacted, and it progressed step by step after the First World War, up to 1935. The Greater East Asia War tolled the knell of their rule there, and the Cripps Conference, held in April, 1942, was more or less one for the general liquidation of Indian affairs. For the concessions offered by the British Government were much greater than those extended hitherto. In exchange for the agreement to join the war against Japan, self-government after the war, and the standing in the Commonwealth of a dominion status as well as a chance to secure complete independence later were offered. What else are these but an admission by Britain of her loss of prestige and power in India, and the forecast of the abandonment of the territory as a colonial possession?

Platforms Change

And the progress of the Indian fight toward this end may be seen in the trend of the platforms adopted by the All-India National Congress. In 1907, it was held that:

"The object of the All-India National Congress is to secure the same political status as the Empire Dominions by the hands of the Indian People and to participate in the rights and responsibility of the British Commonwealth on the same condition with them."

But in 1929 the National Congress declared that "swaraj," mentioned in Article 1 of the pact of the Congress, shall mean a complete independence, Poorna Swaraj, and desire that all possible efforts shall be made toward the securing of complete independence for India. Thereafter, Article 1 of the pact of the Congress provides: "The object of the Congress is to secure Poorna Swaraj by legal and pacific means."

Thus we see that it took the national movement 40 years before coming to embrace its real objective of securing complete independence. The attainment of this aim can be accelerated by the Indian people taking advantage of the present world movement, particularly the War of Greater East Asia.

Let us then see the activities undertaken by the Indians since the outbreak of the War. There have been two notable events, namely the Cripps Conference in April, 1942, and the anti-British opposition of the Congress from August of the same year. Special attention must be paid to the fact that Mahatma Gandhi is still the central figure of the movement in India, and that he is one of the few staunchest leaders determined to attain full independence at all cost.

Hitherto he has been unsuccessful in his single-handed fight because of the intensity of the strife between the Hindu and Mohammedan groups. However, he was the sole leader of the national movement who did not take part in the Cripps Conference and his influence abruptly altered the attitude of the All-India National Congress, which was ready to accept the British proposals. K. Caupland, author of "The Cripps Delegation" reports that the sudden change of the attitude of the Congress toward Cripps' proposals was due to two causes, the bombing of Ceylon by Japanese planes and Gandhi's direction to Congress late on the eve of April 9.

Gandhi Movement

In order to understand the nature of the All-India National Congress, the essence of the Gandhi movement, which forms its central activity, must first be clarified. It is well known that Gandhi's guiding principle is Ahimsa, or non-killing, and as concrete measures for its realization he advocates non-cooperation and civil disobedience. There are training quarters (Ashram) in various parts of the country for youthful leaders, who after training, enter the Hindustan Sabatar, Indian Volunteer Corps, which is the driving force of the movement.

The Gandhi movement also carries on besides political activities, the social reformation, which has developed into an idealistic racial movement, the objective of which is to pursue the racial ideals or Satyagraha. In other words, the Congress is pursuing an aim which is higher than a mere revolution for independence—it is a national movement reaching toward racial ideals, to which complete independence is an inevitable prerequisite. This factor has greatly contributed to the consolidation of the Congress.

However, there are two outstanding weaknesses of the Congress, the first of which is Gandhi's aversion to war, based upon his principle of non-violence, and the inherent weakness of this principle in times of exigencies.

There is a great political significance to the armed combat, now undertaken by Subhas Chandra Bose, for by its adoption it will be able to overcome the hitherto unsurmountable obstacles lying in its path. A powerful war for independence is anticipated in India in the near future, and it is firmly believed that Subhas Chandra Bose will lead his National Army into India and develop his efforts toward the establishment of a basic conception of an ideal racial movement for the construction of the Azad Hindustan.

SONGS FROM PRISON

By MAHATMA GANDHI

The power of the spirit ruleth all
  wisdom;
One man in whom this power
  dwelleth
Will shake a hundred who are
  only learned:

He who possesseth this power of
  the spirit
Serveth humbly his Teacher,
In suffered to sit at his side,
Comprehendeth his teaching,
Listeneth intently,
Pondereth well what he heareth,
And thus, gaining knowledge,
Doeth his duty well
And learneth more of the truth
  from each little thing that
  befalleth:

Through the power of the spirit
Earth keepeth her place, and the
  heavens above:

Through this,
Mountains, gods, men,
Brutes, birds, grasses, plants,
The deer on the plain,
Moths, insects, ants—
All life,
Is from moment sustained:

For this reason,
Strive after the power of the
  spirit.

Fruits of Wisdom

Music is the only one of the fine arts in which not only man, but all animals, have a common property.—mice and elephants, spiders and birds.—Richter.

* * *

Pride, which inspires us with so much envy, serves also to moderate it.—Rochefoucauld.

Okakura's Ideal for Asia

Pioneer Thinker Advocated Wiping Out of Anglo-American Tyranny as Early as 1902

By RYUZO SAITO
(From the Kagaku Shicho)

"Asia is one." These words called forth wide resonance when ominous clouds began to gather over the horizon of East Asia. Reiterated at the Assembly of Greater East Asiatic Nations and again at the General Assembly of Greater East Asiatic Newspapers, it has now become an axiom not only in Japan but throughout East Asia.

"Asia is one." This is the pronunciamento hoisted aloft at the opening of the book, "The Ideals of the East," published in English by Tenshin Okakura, a pioneer thinker in the Meiji era, some forty years ago.

The prophetic pronunciamento, however, received little more than casual notice of a negligible minority in the English-speaking countries at the time. Save a handful of Indians, few, if any, Orientals, not even Japanese, ever knew of the book, still less of the author's lofty ideal. The obscurity was largely accounted for by the fact that the book was published in England. Today none can help being deeply impressed by Okakura's monumental declaration. His greatness and foresight compel our hearty respect and admiration.

Tenshin Okakura was born in Yokohama in December in the 2nd year of Bunkyu (1862), five years after Japan had awakened from her 250-year long slumber and broken the shell of seclusion from the outside world. The port town had already been opened to foreign trade then.

His father, Kanyemon, had been a retainer of the Fukui clan. Lord Shungaku Matsudaira of the clan was a wise and thinking ruler. He always sought the advice of Keigaku (Sanai) Hashimoto and Shonan Yokoi, patriots and eminent thinkers in the later days of the Tokugawa Shogunate, and kept himself abreast of the world situation. He was enlightened enough to realize the need of following a "rich and strong country" policy through production. Finding a man of business acumen in Kanyemon Okakura, Lord Matsudaira set him up in business under the trade name of Ishikawa-ya in Yokohama to engage in selling Habutae to foreigners.

Left to Care of Otsune

Such was Tenshin's family background. His parents were so busy with their trade that they had little time for the upbringing of their little one, who was left to the care of a middle-aged maid, Otsune by name, who had been sent for from their native place. Now this maid, herself a branch of the Hashimoto family tree, would never tire of narrating the anecdotes of the patriot to her charge. This inspired Tenshin with hero-worship and deepened his attachment to Keigaku Hashimoto, whom he idolized as he grew in years.

While there is no doubt that Tenshin was a born prodigy, it cannot be denied that the influence of his hero had a great deal to do in making Tenshin Okakura the man. To bear this out, it may be recorded that Tenshin, while coming in contact with foreigners before his teens and learning English and following Western literature from his boyhood, never allowed himself to be carried away by Occidental ideas. On the contrary, he was thoroughly conscious of all that was noble and great in Japan and ever strove to demonstrate it. He even conceived the ideal of common well-being and mutual prosperity for East Asia. Well versed in Western learning and yet free from the slightest taint of Occidentalism, imbued with patriotism and yet keeping himself above chauvinistic exclusion and fearless in doing what he believed to be right—these qualities, undeniably, were moulded and furnished through the influence of Keigaku Hashimoto.

Took Political Economy

At the age of 16, he entered Tokyo Imperial University, where he majored in political economy. Worship of the Anglo-American countries was the rage at the time. Universities were regarded as channels of the introduction of Western learning and instructors of Anglo-American nationalities were given high posts, while the majority of students had a "Western civilization almighty" notion. Okakura was a conspicuous exception. Between school hours he would compose Chinese poems, some of which were such masterpieces as to surprise even Dr. Keiu Nakamura, celebrated authority on Chinese classics.

Tenshin's activities after his graduation from the university were devoted to the enhancement and demonstration of Japanese art. He organized an art society to encourage appreciation and study of Japanese painting. Later, he entered the service of the Education Ministry as an investigator into ancient Japanese arts. This work served to open his eyes anew to the greatness of his country.

At the age of 25, he was ordered to go abroad on a nine-month tour of inspection of European and American arts. Coming home, he submitted the recommendation that "art education should be based on respect for the inherent national arts." This was in stout defiance of the prevailing trends of his time, when indiscriminate worship of Western civilization held sway, when studying abroad was considered an asset to be boasted and when the relics of Japanese culture were summarily dismissed as signs of anachronism.

It may not be a mere coincidence that, shortly after Okakura's return home, various measures were instituted by the Government aiming at the preservation and promotion of Japanese arts. These measures included the founding of the Tokyo Academy of Fine Arts for the inculcation of art education on purely Japanese principles, the publication of the magazine Kokka (The Flower of the Country) with the object of arousing popular respect for ancient Japanese arts, the enactment of the Ancient Shrine and Temple Preservation Law, for the prevention of the outflow of precious objects of ancient art and the establishment of the Imperial Art Commission to accord deserving rewards to accomplished Japanese artists.

Japan's Culture Without Peer

By this time Okakura was fixed in his conviction that Japanese art far excelled Western arts, that Japanese culture was without a peer. He knew, too, that Japanese culture owed a great deal to the fruition of ancient Chinese and Indian civilizations that had been transplanted to Japanese soil. Animated by a desire to delve into an origin of Japanese culture, he undertook an art exploration trip to China in July in the 26th year of Meiji (1893) when Sino-Japanese relations had become strained. A trip into the interior of China in quest of ancient art. The idea was something unheard of and unthought of in those days. Fighting great hardships and inconveniences, he went to Tientsin and Peking, thence to Loyang (Honan) and Changan (Sian), centers of old Chinese civilization. He extended his trip even to Szechwan. He came back home in December of the same year when war between Japan and China was threatening. The trip deepened his understanding of China and enriched his erudition. He was now convinced more than ever before of the innate greatness of the spiritual culture of the Orient.

Nine years later, in February, 1902, he made a tour of India. Leaving Japan all alone, he made for the south and landed at Calcutta. He wandered to Ajunta, where he saw the famous frescos, and then on to Buddha Gaya, rich in relics of Buddhism. Going deep into the interior, he acquainted himself with the life of the masses. Prevented by British authorities from going into Tibet, he returned home in October of that year.

Sensitive and hot-blooded, Okakura's indignation was aroused at seeing India's culture with a brilliant history of 3,000 years behind it trampled roughshod by the British and her people groan under tyrannical British rule. This was the direct incentive to his ideal of wiping out Anglo-American tyranny from East Asia and building up common well-being and mutual prosperity in that domain. "Asia is one" was the gushing outburst of this ideal.

Exhorted Asiatics

Okakura's irrepressible indignation with the British and his strong sympathy for the people of India were given vent in his work, "The Awakening of the East," made public a few years ago, long after the manuscripts were written. In vehement words he exhorted the Asiatics to self-awakening. In this book, too, he said, "We are one," and "Asia is one."

Okakura's words are clear-cut, bold, poignant. They have the force to rouse even the dullest. But his views, like those of his hero, Keigaku Hashimoto, were far too transcendent to find favor with his contemporaries. It may be said in parentheses, however, that Hashimoto took care to adjust his advocacies to the actualities of the times. An idealist by nature, he was at the same time a realist, a statesman. In sharp contrast, Okakura had ideals far too lofty and advanced to arouse popular understanding, to say nothing of sympathy. What was more, he was too scrupulous and lived on too high a plane to mingle with the masses. In the last analysis, he was neither a statesman nor a go-getter: he was an out-and-out idealist, a leader. If even Keigaku Hashimoto, for all his practical ability, passed away without accomplishing his aim at all, it is nothing surprising that Tenshin Okakura, devoid of a practical turn of mind, went unnoticed and unrewarded in his lifetime.